



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **ICE SPECIAL AGENTS SEIZE \$3 MILLION IN COCAINE FROM PLANE AT LANCASTER AIRPORT**

DALLAS—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents seized 180 kilograms of cocaine and arrested two Mexican nationals from a plane that flew into Lancaster Airport late yesterday morning.

The street value of this cocaine is almost \$3 million.

ICE special agents received information that the inbound plane might be carrying drugs. Upon questioning the two passengers immediately after landing, the ICE special agents were allowed to search the small plane, which was loaded with 167 bricks of cocaine totaling 180 kilograms (238 lbs.).

The ICE special agents took the two passengers into custody. United States Attorney Richard B. Roper has accepted prosecution. The suspects are being arraigned this afternoon in Dallas, Judge Kaplan presiding.

“This is an excellent example of how both immigration and customs laws have been integrated and used to fight drug smuggling,” said Kenneth W. Cates, ICE Dallas special agent in charge of investigations.

This case is still under investigation.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*